

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The listing of claims 1-22 (renumbered) and new claims 23 and 24 as set forth below are intended to replace all prior versions of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A mattress comprising:
- an internal support structure;
- an external cladding that surrounds and covers at least a portion of the support structure; and
- a mattress vibrating device coupled to a part of the support structure, the vibrating device having a motor that ~~operates to vibrate~~ when operating vibrates the part of the support structure ~~when turned on~~ and that gradually slows at a controlled rate to a complete stop over a period of time when operation is complete ~~turned off~~.
2. (Original) A mattress according to claim 1, wherein the motor can be selectively operated at one of at least two different vibration levels.
3. (Currently Amended) A mattress according to claim 1, wherein the motor gradually slows to a stop at the controlled rate over the predetermined period of time from each of the at least two different vibration levels when operation of the vibrating device is complete ~~turned off~~.
4. (Original) A mattress according to claim 1, wherein the period of time over which the motor gradually slows to the complete stop is at least about 10 seconds.
5. (Original) A mattress according to claim 1, wherein the controlled rate at which the motor gradually slows is a linear, continuous deceleration rate.

6. (Original) A mattress according to claim 1, wherein the controlled rate at which the motor gradually slows is a stepped down deceleration rate.

7. (Currently Amended) A method ~~of stopping~~ operating a vibrating mattress having a vibrating device with a motor, the method comprising the steps of:

coupling a portion of the vibrating device to a support structure of the mattress;

operating the vibrating device to vibrate the mattress ~~when the vibrating device is turned on~~; and

adapting a part of the vibrating device such that vibration of the vibrating device gradually slows to a stop at a controlled rate over a predetermined period of time when the step of operating is complete ~~vibrating device is turned off~~.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the period of time over which the vibrating device gradually slows to the complete stop is at least about 10 seconds.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the step of operating further comprises:

~~motor can be selectively operated~~ operating the motor at one of at least two different vibration levels, and wherein the vibrating device gradually slows to a stop at the controlled rate over the predetermined period of time from each of the at least two different vibration levels when the step of operating is complete ~~vibrating device is turned off~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A vibrating mattress comprising:

a support structure;

a mattress cladding that surrounds and covers at least a portion of the support structure; and

a vibrating device including a plurality of components, a motor housing substantially encompassing the plurality of components, and a sleeve ~~the vibrating device~~ mounted internal to part of the mattress ~~with a vibrating part of the vibrating device~~ and coupled with an

element of the support structure, the motor housing removably received within the sleeve and arranged to transmit vibrations through the sleeve for vibrating the mattress, the ~~vibrating device sleeve~~ being ~~protected by a water resistant shell that encompasses components of the vibrating device.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A mattress according to claim 10, further comprising:
a pocket ~~mounted~~ provided within the mattress, the pocket having an opening that exposes a pocket interior to a mattress exterior, the pocket interior being adapted to receive the ~~vibrating device~~ sleeve therein through the opening.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) A mattress according to claim 10, wherein the plurality of components includes at least a motor, a vibrating element selectively driven by the motor, and a battery providing power to operate the motor.

15. (Currently Amended) A mattress according to claim 10, wherein the sleeve ~~vibrating part of the vibrating device~~ contacts a transmission plate that is in contact with the support structure.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A mattress according to claim ~~15~~ 16, ~~further comprising a~~ wherein the sleeve substantially surroundings and contactings the motor housing of the vibrating device and is in contact with the transmission plate.

18. (Currently Amended) A mattress comprising:

a support structure;

a mattress cladding that surrounds and covers at least a portion of the support structure; and

a self contained vibrating device having an exterior housing received in but slidably removable from a mounted internal to part of the mattress with a part of the vibrating device removably coupled with part of the support structure for vibrating the mattress, the vibrating device when operating vibrates the part of the support structure and gradually slows at a controlled rate to a complete stop over a period of time when operation is complete being removable from the mattress without dismantling any portion of the mattress.

1819. (Renumbered and Amended) A mattress according to claim 18 17, further comprising:

a pocket mounted within the mattress, wherein the self contained vibrating device is slidably received in the pocket and a portion of the vibrating device couples with the support structure.

1920. (Renumbered and Amended) A mattress according to claim 18 17, further comprising:

a sleeve having a sleeve interior, the sleeve being mounted within a portion of the mattress and the self contained vibrating device being slidably received within the sleeve interior.

2021. (Renumbered and Amended) A mattress according to claim 20 19, further comprising:

a pocket mounted within the mattress, wherein the sleeve and the self contained vibrating device are slidably received within the pocket.

~~21~~22. (Renumbered and Amended) A mattress according to claim 20 ~~19~~, further comprising:

a transmission plate in contact with the support structure and with the sleeve.

23. (New) A mattress according to claim 1, wherein the mattress vibrating device further comprises:

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a sleeve mounted within the mattress and coupled to the support structure, the motor being removably housed within the sleeve and its vibrations transmitted through the sleeve to the support structure.

24. (New) A method according to claim 7, prior to the step of operating, further comprising the steps of:

mounting a sleeve within the mattress;

coupling the sleeve to a mattress support structure; and

removably sliding the motor into the sleeve such that motor vibrations are transmitted through the sleeve to the support structure.
